

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A mobile terminal, comprising:  
2 a control unit;  
3 a display unit;  
4 an upper housing;  
5 a lower housing; and  
6 a 2-axis hinge unit for coupling the housings, wherein  
7 a part of said 2-axis hinge unit is exposed outside the  
8 terminal, and information input device is mounted in the exposed  
9 portion.
- 1 2. The terminal according to claim 1, wherein  
2 the control unit controls the terminal according to an  
3 operation of the information input device.
- 1 3. The terminal according to claim 1, wherein  
2 the control unit assigns a predetermined function to the  
3 information input device.
- 1 4. The terminal according to claim 1, wherein  
2 the information input device is a pointing device.
- 1 5. The terminal according to claim 4, wherein  
2 the control unit assigns another operating function to the  
3 pointing device.
- 1 6. The terminal according to claim 4, wherein

2       the information input device further comprises a terminal  
3   operating function.

1   7.   The terminal according to claim 6, wherein  
2       the terminal operating function is performed by a press.

1   8.   The terminal according to claim 1, wherein  
2       the information input device is a fingerprint sensor.

1   9.   The terminal according to claim 8, wherein  
2       the control unit can operate the terminal when the  
3   fingerprint sensor detects a predetermined input.

1   10.   The terminal according to claim 1, further comprising  
2       position detection means for detecting relative positions  
3   between the upper housing and the lower housing.

1   11.   The terminal according to claim 10, wherein  
2       the control unit controls the terminal based on an output  
3   of the position detection means.

1   12.   The terminal according to claim 11, wherein  
2       the control unit controls an operation of the information  
3   input device.

1   13.   The terminal according to claim 10, wherein  
2       the position detection means comprise a magnet and a magnetic  
3   sensor.

1 14. The terminal according to claim 13, wherein  
2 the magnet and the magnetic sensor are arranged in separate  
3 housings.

1 15. The terminal according to claim 13, wherein  
2 the magnetic sensor is a Hall element.

1 16. The terminal according to claim 10, wherein  
2 the position detection means detect a turning direction  
3 of the housings.

1 17. The terminal according to claim 16, wherein  
2 the control unit controls the display unit based on the  
3 turning direction of the housings.

1 18. The terminal according to claim 2, wherein  
2 the control unit detects an operation of a predetermined  
3 operation key to control an operation of the information input  
4 device.

1 19. The terminal according to claim 18, wherein  
2 the control unit controls an operation of the information  
3 input device while a predetermined operation key is operated.

1 20. The terminal according to claim 1, comprising  
2 a lock unit for locking said 2-axis hinge unit.

1 21. The terminal according to claim 20, wherein  
2 the lock unit is controlled by an input from the information  
3 input device.

1 22. The terminal according to claim 21, wherein  
2 the information input device is a personal authentication  
3 sensor; and  
4 the lock unit is released when the sensor detects a  
5 predetermined input.

1 23. The terminal according to claim 22, wherein  
2 the personal authentication sensor is a fingerprint sensor.

1 24. The terminal according to claim 1, wherein  
2 the terminal is a mobile telephone.